



# PIPELINE

A Publication of NH Area 43 Assembly

June 2016

## 66th A.A. General Service Conference

### Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions and Concepts

It's been with us for so long now, providing guidance and stability throughout the Fellowship, that there may be some within the A.A. universe who have forgotten—or never knew—that not everyone thought creation of the General Service Conference was a good idea. It could be said that nothing comes easy in A.A.—not the price many have paid to get here, the sacrifices necessary in keeping our groups together, or the ongoing maintenance of the very services that hold us in unity today. So, it should be no surprise that getting the Conference up and running as “the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society” itself took some doing.

A.A. had grown tremendously in the years since the Alcoholic Foundation had been created in 1938, when there were barely 100 A.A. members. In 1946, when membership had reached about 30,000, Bill had begun formulating a plan for some kind of conference with delegates from A.A. groups around the country.

In the beginning, though, there was little enthusiasm for the project. As almost all the 15 trustees on the board of the Alcoholic Foundation saw it, the Alcoholics Anonymous movement had flourished in the 10 years since the Foundation had been created, and they saw no reason to

endorse what looked like a radical change. Bernard Smith, who joined the board as a nonalcoholic trustee in 1946, was alone in supporting the plan. A businessman and a lawyer, Smith's backing over the next few years was to prove crucial.

One angry faction that opposed the conference called itself the Orthodox Group, and included Henrietta Seiberling among its few members. In a letter she wrote at the time she charged that Bill was motivated by greed and suffering from delusions of grandeur, and that, “we want the people in the Groups to know just what the dangers are.”

One nonalcoholic trustee, Leonard Harrison, resigned over the issue, saying in a February 1948 letter to Bill: “I have felt that a degree of isolation of the Foundation from the main currents of the Alcoholics Anonymous movement has been, and would continue to be, a stabilizing factor in dealing with the necessary ‘house-keeping,’ legal, and financial affairs of the A.A. headquarters. The somewhat intricate relationships envisaged in your plans... will invite more troubles than solutions, I believe.” Harrison later rejoined the board and was credited by Bill with being a calming influence that helped the Foundation weather the controversy.

Essentially, Bill feared that after



## NH AREA 43 CHALLENGE

**\$7.14**

**Per member  
Per Year\***

**\* The cost for GSO is \$7.14 per member per year. Please bring this message back to your group. Perhaps organize a special contribution.**

**SEE FLIER ON LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND FEEL FREE TO COPY AND PASS AROUND!**

*\$7.14 is a spiritual way to shake the hand of the incoming alcoholic locally, and worldwide.*

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he and Dr. Bob passed on, the Alcoholic Foundation would eventually suffer a loss of legitimacy. As Bill saw it, such a development would hurt A.A. in various ways, including diminished financial support from A.A. groups for the New York office.

Writing to an A.A. member in San Diego at the end of 1947, Bill said: "We shall have to do something... about the New York Headquarters. A self-perpetuating Board of Trustees unknown to most A.A. members could never stand up over the long future. So we shall have to have some kind of annual conference in which out-of-towners delegated for the purpose would sit down and talk things over with the Trustees, the office, and the Grapevine, and make a joint annual report to the Groups."

As Bill noted, however, in a July 1955 article from *The Language of the Heart* (p. 162), "It was one thing to say that we ought to have a General Service Conference, but it was quite another to devise a plan which would bring it into successful existence. The cost of holding such a Conference was easily dismissed. Even though the outlay might be \$20,000 for each yearly session, this would be only fifteen cents apiece extra for each A.A. member, and mighty well worth it. What member wouldn't give that much to be sure that A.A. didn't collapse at its center in some future day of great need or crisis?"

"But how on earth were we going to cut down destructive politics with all its usual struggles for prestige and vain-glory? How many delegates would be required and from where should they come? Arrived at New York, how could they be related to the Board of Trustees? What would be their actual powers and duties? Whatever the plan, it had to be sound enough to work well on the first trial. No blunders big enough to create a fiasco could be allowed."

And work well it did. Like other not-so-popular-at-first ideas (think Big Book and Twelve Traditions), in the 66 years since its "experimental" appearance on the A.A. landscape, the General Service Conference has proven to be an indispensable thread woven firmly into the fabric of A.A., a worthy successor to the Fellowship's founders and early members.

## Name that Theme!

For the 2020 International  
Convention—  
Deadline Oct. 3, 2016

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about a theme for the 2020 International Convention celebration of A.A.'s 85th Anniversary in Detroit, Michigan, July 2–5, 2020. We invite you to send in suggestions for a theme, which will be selected by the trustees' International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee. Please let us hear from you by October 3, 2016.

To spark your thinking, the themes of past A.A. International Conventions have been: **1965** "I Am Responsible"; **1970** "Unity"; **1975** "Let It Begin With Me"; **1980** "The Joy of Living"; **1985** "Fifty Years With Gratitude"; **1990** "Fifty-Five Years—One Day At a Time"; **1995** "A.A. Everywhere—Anywhere"; **2000** "Pass It On—Into the 21st Century"; **2005** "I Am Responsible"; **2010** "A Vision for You;" and in **2015** "80 Years — Happy, Joyous and Free."

Send your ideas to:  
International Conventions  
Assignment, P.O. Box 459,  
Grand Central Station,  
New York, NY 10163.

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the General Service Office of A.A. /  
Summer 2016 issue.

## PIPELINE

A publication of  
the NH Area 43  
Assembly of Alcoholics  
Anonymous

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Email the Pipeline at  
pipeline@nhaa.net

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Statement of Purpose:  
*The New Hampshire Area  
Pipeline will be the voice  
of Alcoholics Anonymous  
within Area 43. Its editors  
and staff will be primarily  
accountable to New  
Hampshire AA Area 43  
as a whole. Within the  
bounds of friendliness and  
good taste, the Pipeline  
will enjoy perfect freedom  
of speech on all matters  
directly pertaining to  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
within Area 43. Like the  
AA movement it mirrors,  
the primary purpose of the  
New Hampshire Pipeline  
will be to try to carry the  
AA message to alcoholics  
and practice the AA  
principles in all its affairs.*

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•  
Email: office@nhaa.net  
Website: www.nhaa.net

•  
Office Hours:  
Mon-Fri: 10am—4pm  
Sat: 10am—2pm

## **Get Your Events Listed on the Area Website!**

If you're planning a Group, District, or Area event and would like to spread the word, you can submit your event information online at [www.nhaa.net/submit-event](http://www.nhaa.net/submit-event)

## **Get Your Group on the NH Area Website Meeting List!**

If you are starting a new group or need to make changes to the information of an existing meeting, you can do this easily by submitting the information online:

- **New Group Form:** <http://www.nhaa.net/new-group>
- **Group Change Form:** <http://www.nhaa.net/group-change>

Please contact our Webmaster if you need any help at  
[webmaster@nhaa.net](mailto:webmaster@nhaa.net)





## May 2016 Contributions—Thank You!

Thank you to all the groups that contribute to Area 43. Your contributions are critical to the continued success of AA in our Area as we carry the message to fellow alcoholics. We'll be publishing the donation list quarterly and greatly need your continued support, especially now in these challenging times — thank you!

Exeter Serenity, Exeter  
Thurs Noon 12 Step Group, Concord  
Beginners Awareness, Laconia  
Souhegan Sunrise, Milford  
Badgley, Tom  
Exp, Strength & Hope, Concord  
Fri Nite Live Grapvne, Hancock  
Out To Lunch Bunch, Nashua  
New Life Group, Gorham  
Owner's Manual Bb, Gonic  
Thursday Step Group, Littleton  
Keep It Simple, Manchester  
B & M Honesty, Merrimack  
Spacetown, Derry  
Heart Of The Heights, Concord  
Big Book 12 Step Study, Concord  
Good Morn. Portsmouth  
Daily Reprieve, Lebanon

Sisters In Sobriety, Keene  
Friday Night Group, Keene  
Milton Mills Mens Mtg, Milton  
Friday Night Live, Manchester  
New Beginnings 12&12, Derry  
Kingston Men's Group, Kingston  
Grapefully Sober, Exeter  
Derby Discussion, Berlin  
Gilford Sunday Origl, Gilford  
Into Action Mens, Kittery  
Peterborough Speakers, Peterborough  
Exeter Serenity, Exeter  
Keep It Simple, Exeter  
Positive Start, New London  
Barnstead Original, Barnstead  
Sun Morning Daybreak, Portsmouth  
As Bill Sees It, Franklin

### Area 43 2015–2016 Officers & Committee Chairs:

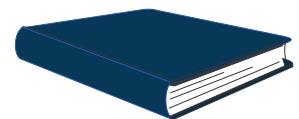
#### Officers

Pete V. Chairperson • Gary C. Alt-Chairperson •  
B. S. Secretary • Dan P. Treasurer • Dale R. Delegate •  
Jim M. Alt-Delegate • Benny, Registrar.

#### Committee Chairs

Kevin S. Archives • Artie D. Corrections • Jeff S. Finance • Mary B.  
Functions • Sue W. Grapevine & Literature • Hotline • Janet T. Pipeline  
• Bill P. Service Office • Jim O. Treatment.

**These chairs are here to help the individual district chairs and all AAs. For other open chairs, please email Pete at [chairperson@nhaa.net](mailto:chairperson@nhaa.net) if you are interested. Also, please consider volunteering on a committee and getting to know your chairs. They can all be reached at their NHAA service office email addresses which are posted on the website.**



**BIG BOOKS  
NEEDED** at the  
Goffstown Prison for  
Women. All books can  
be dropped off at the  
Area Office.

# MAY 2016 Group Changes

Dist	Town	Day	Start	End	Grp #	Code	Group Name	Meeting Location	Address	Notes
7	Greenville	Thursday	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	685771		Road To Recovery	Freedom Fellowship	800 Turnpike Rd (Rte 123/124)	Moved from Greenville Comm Ch at 7 Pleasant St,
15	Dover	Sunday	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	126098		Resurrection Group	Wentworth Douglas Hosp Garrison Wing	789 Central Ave	Name Changed from Greenville Big Bk & Code D added Used to meet in Auditorium and end time changed from 12 PM
15	Dover	Tuesday	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	160598		Big Book Group	Triangle Club	120 Broadway	Changed it's name from Anniversary Group
21	Lebanon	Saturday	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	718466		Daily Reprieve	Headrest	14 Church St	GSO# added for T458
12	Manchester	Monday	7:30 PM	8:30 PM	125264		Joy of Living Group	St Catherine's Ch	Basemt 207 Hemlock St	Meeting time had been 8-9pm
14	Portsmouth	Sunday	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	629106		A New Freedom	Big Book Mtg	Gross Roads House 600 Lafayette Rd	GSO# added for T453
<b>New Groups</b>										
14	Portsmouth	Friday	4:30 PM	5:30 PM	T470	SD	Just Keep Swimming	Safe Harbor Recovery Ctr	875 Islington Street	
7	Antrim	Sunday	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	T471	B	Home Group	Fallon Residence	82 Elm Avenue	
11	Tilton	Monday	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	T472	SC	Women's Meeting	Northfield Tilton Cong Ch	283 Main St	
8	Concord	Monday	7:15 PM	8:15 PM	T473	SBD	Ladies Choice	W Congregational Ch	499 N State St	
<b>DISBANDED GROUPS</b>										
15	Dover	Friday	7:00 PM	8:15 PM	160600		Fri Nite Friendship	Triangle Club	120 Broadway	
9	Londonderry	Tuesday	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	168238		A Vision for You	St Peter's Episc Church	Rte 128 & 5 Peabody Row	

# WANTED



## ... Stories for the PIPELINE

As always, we would love to receive submissions for *Pipeline* articles from our members. Share your Experience, Strength & Hope. We'd like to hear what inspires you to keep at this recovery journey day in and day out. Do not feel like you have to be a great writer to send something in. We have people to help with editing. **We even have a new submission button on our website!** Please submit articles of under 500 words to Pipeline@nhaa.net or mail to: NH Assembly Office, 1330 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, NH 03106, Attn: Pipeline. This is an honest fellowship; we presume all submissions are original or in the public domain. Following publication, all copyrights revert to the authors.

Report AA-related news from your district—round-ups, social functions, assemblies, calendar items, requests for volunteers, etc.

This newsletter is by and for alcoholics. Material may be edited for clarity and length. This newsletter and earlier issues can be printed from the Area 43 website:

[www.nhaa.net](http://www.nhaa.net).



NH Area Hotline  
1-800-593-3300

email: [hotline@nhaa.net](mailto:hotline@nhaa.net)  
to volunteer to take calls  
in your area!

See the monthly  
calendars for  
May &  
June, 2016  
at [nhaa.net](http://nhaa.net)

The Service Office  
Committee (SOC)  
is looking for  
members.  
Please email  
[soc@nhaa.net](mailto:soc@nhaa.net) or  
chairperson  
[@nhaa.net](mailto:@nhaa.net)  
if interested.



# NH AREA 43 CHALLENGE



**2015**

**Number of Members      1,348,072**

**GSO Services Cost      \$9,629,499**

**\$7.14**  
Per member  
per year

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Please bring this message back to your group.  
Perhaps organize a special group contribution.**

Groups and individuals can send contributions to GSO online at [aa.org](http://aa.org);  
or mail to GSO, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

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the incoming alcoholic locally and worldwide.**

**\*GSO expects an operating loss in 2016. Only 23.37% of all NH groups contribute to GSO.**